



**An Update for Kentucky Writing Cluster Leaders
from the KDE Writing consultants
May 2007**

Thanks to all cluster leaders and school leaders who helped make this year's portfolio scoring sessions successful. We appreciate your hard work!

Please bookmark this site. All of our writing resource and training materials are on this site.

For your convenience, **Cluster Leader Electronic Messages** are archived on our Writing Resources Web page on the KDE site.

In this issue, please find information on

- **Marker Paper—call for submissions—Extended DEADLINE-May 23, 2007**
- **Summer Cluster Leader Training**
- **On-demand item release (Grades 5 and 8) and Grade 12 On-demand testing window for fall**
- **Openings for Writing Advisory Committee**
- **Resources and Announcements**

**Marker Papers—A Call for Submissions
Extended DEADLINE—May 23, 2007**

Remember to consider submitting to the *Kentucky Marker Papers* project. **We have extended the original deadline of May 7 to May 23 to accommodate teachers who are finishing with portfolio scoring.**

If you have not used the *Kentucky Marker Papers*, you may download a set from the KDE Web site. The *Marker Papers* set offers excellent student samples for teachers to use in instruction.

Please find the invitations for this project attached to this email and invite teachers in your building to participate. As you complete portfolio scoring, the time is right to review and showcase your students' work!

Summer Cluster Leader Training

This summer, cluster leaders will be provided training via WebEx, an online presentation program. We will be providing at least three hours of professional development on topics such as on-demand writing assessment, conferencing, reflective writing, and transactive writing. Cluster leaders and teachers will be able to download and view sessions and materials as needed on these various topics. These sessions will then be available to be used with staff as needed.

Summer online training will be available in late July. As more information is available, we will announce this via the CLEM. The recorded sessions will be online at <http://kde.webex.com>.

On-demand Item Release

Items have been released for Grades 5 and 8 on-demand and may be found at

<http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Administrative+Resources/Testing+and+Reporting+/District+Support/Link+to+Released+Items/On-Demand+Writing+Released+Prompts.htm>

Grade 12 items are scheduled for release by Measured Progress by the end of the school year.

Grade 12 On-demand Assessment for the fall

This announcement is from Office of Assessment in the District Assessment Coordinator's email. The decision was made to include the Grade 12 On-demand writing assessment during the same window as the EXPLORE and the PLAN.

FALL TESTING WINDOW DATES SET:

The fall testing window will be September 17-28, 2007. EXPLORE, PLAN, and 12th grade on-demand will be administered during this two- week window.

Writing Advisory Committee—Availabilities by Region

The Writing Advisory Committee (WAC) has several position openings for teacher representatives for 2007-2008. This committee provides a voice for

Kentucky Teachers to express their needs, interests, and concerns about writing instruction and assessment.

If you are interested in serving on this committee and represent one of the available regions and grade levels, please contact Dena Cole at Dena.Cole@education.ky.gov for an application. She may also be contacted at (502) 564-2106.

We have these regions and grade level positions available at this time.

Region 7—Middle, High (northeastern Kentucky—Lewis, Greenup, Carter, Boyd, Lawrence, Martin, Johnson, Morgan, Elliot, Menifee, Rowan, Bath, Fleming, Mason, Robertson, Bracken Counties)

Region 8—Elementary (eastern Kentucky—Wolfe, Magoffin, Floyd, Pike, Breathitt, Lee, Wolfe, Owsley, Leslie, Perry, Knott, Letcher Counties)

Region 9—High (Fayette County)

University Representative—High School

The next Writing Advisory Committee meeting for current members is **July 13, 2007**. The Collaborative for Teaching and Learning (CTL) will be sending information in early June regarding the location of the meeting.

Resources and Announcements

The following section contains resources you may find helpful and announcements by various groups that may interest cluster leaders and teacher.

2007 Portfolio Audit

There are opportunities available for cluster leaders and interested teachers to apply to be portfolio audit scorers. **All audit scorers will go through a training process and must qualify to become eligible to score.** Audit scorers who do not qualify may not score in the audit. Training for auditors will be May 29, 30 and qualifying will begin May 31. The audit will run weekdays 8:00-4:00, June 1-15, 2007 in Louisville.

For more information, please contact Heather Braden at (502) 425-7131.

KCTE/LA Writing Contest

Please consider having your students submit their work to the [KCTE/LA Writing Contest](#).

Please visit new [The Kentucky Writing Project](#) site.

This site lists what is going on at each of Kentucky's Writing Project sites and will list conferences, workshops, etc. available around the state. The Kentucky Writing Project site houses writing resources for teachers.

This [site](#) lists information about literacy instruction for K-12 educators.

Thinking about ACT readiness and grammar instruction? This [document](#) may provide some assistance.

This [site](#) might provide some instruction around the reflective entry for the portfolio.

Youth Storytelling

Youth Storytelling (from the April 2007 KSA Newsletter)

KSA promotes KY Division Competition of the National Youth Storytelling Showcase

The Kentucky Storytelling Association is proud to announce the first annual Kentucky Division Competition of the National Youth Storytelling Showcase. This will be a statewide competition with entrants invited to participate from all counties, the elementary, middle and high school age levels are included in the Kentucky portion of the National Showcase. Each school/organization must submit an "intent to participate" form to the KSA prior to May 31, 2007. This form will soon be available electronically on the website. Schools will hold their own in-organization Story Swap contests to choose one solo storyteller. Also they must choose one tandem team of two-four tellers to be their representatives at the state semi-final competition in August, 2007.

Please check the website often for updates and Project Schedule. www.kystory.org